

Western Kentucky University news for the Council on Postsecondary Education, February 2015

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WKU President Gary Randsell parachuted with the U.S. Army Golden Knights to deliver the game ball for the WKU-Army football game on Nov. 15.



6 WKU students honored by Gilman International Scholarship Program

Six WKU students have been honored by the nationally competitive Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program.

Bridgette Davis of Bowling Green, Amy Givens of Bowling Green, Jeremiah Stringer of Monticello, Megan Lemily of Bowling Green and Cody Tutt of Owensboro were named Gilman Scholars and will receive up to \$5,000 each toward their study abroad or internship program costs. Marie Angeles of Somerset was named an alternate.

Davis and Stringer will be student teaching in Ecuador; Givens will study healthcare in India; Lemily will student teach in Spain; and Tutt will study in South Korea.

Chumbler named dean of College of Health & Human Services

Dr. Neale Chumbler, a 1991 WKU graduate, will return to the Hill as the new Dean of WKU's College of Health & Human Services.

Dr. Chumbler was a Professor and Head of the Department of Health Policy and Management at the University of Georgia. He replaces Dr. John Bonaguro, who is returning to the faculty after 12 years as the founding dean of the college.

He has a Ph.D. in Sociology from Case Western Reserve University, a master's degree in Sociology from WKU, and a bachelor's degree in Sociology from Murray State University.

Since it was created 12 years ago, the College of Health & Human Services has seen strong enrollment growth; the addition of the Medical Center-WKU Health Sciences Complex; and the addition of doctoral programs in nursing practice and physical therapy.



Dr. Neale Chumbler



WKU's 250-acre Bowling Green campus has been awarded Level I Accreditation by the ArbNet Arboretum Accreditation Program and The Morton Arboretum. The WKU Arboretum is home to more than 3,400 trees spread throughout the campus. It serves as an urban forest and a living laboratory for the public and has more than 27 miles of self-guided walking paths.



U.S. News ranks WKU's online bachelor's program 2nd in nation

WKU's online bachelor's degree programs have been ranked second in the nation by U.S. News & World Report. WKU finished in a three-way tie for Best Online Bachelor's Programs with Daytona State College and University of Chicago-Illinois. Pennsylvania State University World College was first.

WKU was also ranked 11th in Graduate Criminal Justice Programs, 35th in Graduate Education Programs, 70th in Graduate Nursing Programs and 84th in Master's of Business Administration Programs.

In fall 2014, 4,949 WKU undergraduates took at least one web course.

WKU graduate's poetry collection a finalist for prestigious literary award

WKU graduate Saeed Jones' debut collection *Prelude to Bruise* is a finalist for best poetry book of 2014 in the prestigious National Book Critics Circle awards. Jones received his bachelor's degree in English from WKU in 2008 and was a member of WKU's forensics team. He is the editor of BuzzFeed LGBT, a Pushcart Prize-winning poet and received his MFA in Creative Writing at Rutgers University—Newark. Jones was born in Memphis, Tennessee, and raised in Lewisville, Texas. He lives in New York City.

WKU receives 2015 Community Engagement Classification

WKU has received the 2015 Community Engagement Classification from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. WKU is one of 361 institutions that now hold the classification, which is valid until 2025.

"The Carnegie Community Engagement Classification is a reaffirmation that indicates that WKU's community engagement mission is becoming fully institutionalized," Leah Ashwill, director of the WKU ALIVE Center for Community Partnerships, said. "While there is still much to be accomplished in the way of public work and engaged learning, community engagement has become part of the fabric of WKU's tradition of excellence."

